

June 23, 2002

FPPC

C/O Chairperson, Ms. Getman & Commissioners
428 J Street Suite 620
Sacramento, Ca 95814

Dear Chairman, Ms. Getman, and other Commissioners:

My name is Terry Huebner and I am writing you regarding Terilyn Hanko, member of the Peninsula Healthcare District Board. I understand that she has been trying to get the FPPC to approve her so that she can vote on the very important issue of building a new hospital. For 9 years I have been attending the Peninsula Healthcare District Board meetings with many concerns for the taxpayers. Over these years I have seen many issues that still bother me today. When Terilyn Hanko came onto the board I began to see a person who has what it takes to question things that don't seem fair to the public. She has many concerns for the public rather than for the private non profit corporation (Mills-Peninsula/Sutter) as I believe some members have. The enclosed article shows that she thinks the hospital is using "scare tactics" to persuade people to support the new building and that Mills-Peninsula/Sutter wants carte blanche over all of the services and properties. She also thinks that they don't really want to negotiate fairly with the district and that anything that's going to stand in the community for 50 years needs to be negotiated very carefully. I believe that she is trying to hold Mills-Peninsula/Sutter more accountable. She has been fighting for the public's right to have a say on issues that are unfair. We have been lost without her being able to participate on many issues since the FPPC's advice letter. I am writing to ask you to PLEASE let Terilyn Hanko help the taxpayers. The issue of the new hospital is very important and I personally feel we need her to be looking out for our (the taxpayers') interest. I do not see a conflict with her based on her actions and ask you to please consider how your vote will affect all of us for the next 50 to 100 years.

Thank you for hearing my concerns.

Sincerely,



Mrs. T Huebner
1708 Davis Drive
Burlingame, CA 94010
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Health Care District, have yet to agree on the plans for the new hospital. For nearly two years, the plans—approved by Mills-Peninsula and Sutter—have awaited approval by the district, which operates the publicly owned land.

The district would lease the land to Mills-Peninsula for 50 years, at \$1 per year, in exchange for Mills-Peninsula building the new hospital.

However, negotiations between the hospital and the district have stalled for some time. Last fall, the two groups stopped meeting, due to confusion over some district board members' conflict of interests. Three of the district board members—Terilyn Hanko, Dr. Tobin Schneider and board Chair Vince Muzzi—have potential conflicts that prohibit them from participating on the negotiations team between the hospital and district.

There's also been some debate on the district level over how many board members would be needed to approve the project.

More importantly, said board member Hanko, the district and the hospital haven't reached an agreement on certain key points of the project. Hill is concerned about the delays. "I think time is of the

essence," it took about eight years to complete the seismic retrofits of County Health Center, Hill said.

Peninsula Medical Center could be substantially damaged in a large earthquake, hospital officials told The Independent last year.

It's a concept that frightens Hill. The county hospital is already overburdened. "If Peninsula were to close, that would compound the problem."

Health Care District board member Terilyn Hanko thinks the hospital is using "scare tactics" to persuade people to support the new building. "Sutter knew that this hospital had seismic problems long ago and they didn't do anything about it," she said.

The motivation for hospital officials isn't safety but money, Hanko claims. "It's a business venture."

Hanko thinks it's unfair to blame the district for "holding up" the project.

"Sutter changed the deal midstream," she said. The negotiations as they stood in a draft lease agreement were "about a hospital only," she said.

Later, the hospital and its architects "decided without consulting the district to create an entire campus," using up more land for extra build-

ings, Hanko said. "They want carte blanche over all of these services and all of these properties ... that wasn't in the original deal. They've changed the rules midstream without even consulting the district. They just expect us to sign off on this? I just think it shows bad faith negotiations. ... They don't really want to negotiate fairly with the district. ... Anything that's going to stand in this community for the next 50 years needs to be negotiated very carefully."

Hanko at this point isn't negotiating at all. For months, she has been advised against participating in negotiations due to a perceived conflict of interest.

Hanko has refrained from negotiations based upon advice from the Fair Political Practices Commission, which regulates conflict of interest laws. She is appealing the decision.

Hill said he doesn't know all the details of the conflicts of interests or other arguments between Mills-Peninsula and the district. "The basic issue is the reconstruction of the hospital. Other parts of it I'm not privy to," he said. "I just want to see that we get a new hospital or that the other hospital doesn't close for any reason."

Hanko's not concerned that

will happen. "We have a working hospital. It has seismic problems. There is virtually not a hospital standing that doesn't have seismic problems in California," she said.

County Health Center doesn't, now that the county spent \$130 million to upgrade its public hospital, Hill said.

County Health Center is now the only hospital in the county that meets other standards. Hill hopes that will soon change. "We [the county] stepped up to the plate and we expect other hospitals to do the same," Hill said.

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